

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 DLOS-04 IO-10 OFA-01 OES-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /075 W

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P R 241705Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8154

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 10607

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, PE, CI, BOL

SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN OUTLET TO SEA - PERUVIAN REACTION

REF: SANTIAGO 8606

SUMMARY: GOP SOURCES HAVE TOLD EMBASSY THAT CHILE HAS OFFICIALLY NOTIFIED PERU OF BOLIVIAN REQUEST FOR CORRIDOR TO SEA AND HAS REQUESTED FORMAL GOP APPROVAL BEFORE CHILEAN/BOLIVIAN NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS ISSUE BEGIN. ALTHOUGH OPPOSITION TO GOP AGREEMENT EXISTS IN SOME MILITARY CIRCLES, FIRST INDICATIONS ARE THAT THESE WILL NOT PREVENT POSITIVE GOP RESPONSE. END SUMMARY.

1. FONMIN DESK OFFICER FOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS ALVAREZ CALDERON (PROTEST) TOLD EMBOFF DECEMBER 23 THAT CHILEAN EMBASSY IN LIMA HAD PASSED DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO FOREIGN OFFICE. NOTE STATES IMPLY THAT BOLIVIANS HAD REQUESTED CHILE TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF A BOLIVIAN CORRIDOR TO THE SEA IN THE ARICA AREA (FORMER PERUVIAN TERRITORY). CHILEAN NOTE ASKED FOR PERUVIAN CONCURRENCE IN ORDER THAT NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BEGIN.

2. ACCORDING FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL CHILEAN NOTE CONTAINED NO DETAILS OF RECENTLY PUBLISHED CHILEAN PRO-CONFIDENTIAL

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POSAL (REFTEL). HE READ THIS AS DEFT CHILEAN MOVE TO

"PUT BALL IN PERUVIAN COURT", BURDENING GOP WITH RESPONSIBILITY OF ENSURING THAT BOLIVIAN/CHILEAN NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED. IMPLICATION IS THAT CHILE WILL NOT DISCUSS ITS PROPOSAL WITH BOLIVIA UNTIL PERUVIAN CONCURRENCE IS RECEIVED.

3. ALVAREZ CALDERON IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH DCM OPINED THAT GOP WOULD SOON BE FORTHCOMING WITH INITIAL GO-AHEAD ON NEGOTIATIONS BUT WOULD PRESS FOR ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS RELATING TO PORT OR CORRIDOR ACTIVITY AS COMPENSATION FOR WRITING OFF CLAIMS TO FORMER TERRITORY. GOP WOULD ALSO ASK TO BE CONSULTED ONCE MORE BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS ARE FINALIZED. OFFICIAL NOT SANGUINE THAT ECONOMIC CONCESSIONS WOULD BE GAINED.

4. SOME MILITARY OFFICERS IN THE SOUTH HAVE REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO GOP GREEN LIGHT ON NEGOTIATION, BUT ACCORDING TO ALVAREZ CALDERON THE ISSUE HAS BEEN DECIDED. GOP RECOGNIZES THAT BOLIVIAN CORRIDOR WILL BOLSTER PERUVIAN NATIONAL SECURITY IN LONG RUN, FURTHER REDUCING PERUVIAN/CHILEAN TENSIONS. FOR THIS REASON AND BECAUSE OF PERU'S INTERNATIONAL IMAGE, GOP MUST ASSENT TO NEGOTIATIONS. DISGRUNTLED OFFICERS HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO GO ALONG WITH NATIONAL POLICY, SAID ALVAREZ. HOWEVER, HE CONCLUDED THAT PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ WOULD ATTEMPT TO SPREAD RESPONSIBILITY FOR PERUVIAN CONCURRENCE BY CLOSELY COORDINATING RESPONSE OF "CONTROLLED PRESS" AND ELICITING APPROVAL OF PRESTIGIOUS CIVILIAN LEADERS.

5. VIEW EXPRESSED ABOVE IS CONSIDERED FOREIGN OFFICE VIEW OF PROBABLY GOP RESPONSE. MILITARY OFFICER AND AIDE TO PRIME MINISTER-DESIGNATE FERNANDEZ MALDONADO ALSO TOLD EMBOFF ON DECEMBER 23 THAT CHILEAN NOTE INFORMING PERU OF BOLIVIAN/CHILEAN NEGOTIATION CONSTITUTED CONSULTATION IN KEEPING WITH TREATY OF ANCON. BOTH OFFICIALS FELT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE PROTRACTED AND THAT BOLIVIA WOULD LOSE MORE ECONOMICALLY THAN IT WOULD GAIN, YET WOULD PLUNGE AHEAD FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL REASONS. PERU WOULD NOT ACTIVELY OPPOSE SETTLEMENT.

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, PE, CI, BL  
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